

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-42 have been resubmitted. Claims 21-25 are currently amended. No claims have been canceled. No new claims have been added.

Claims 1-20 and 26-42 have been allowed. Claims 21, 23, and 24 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Platzer, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 3,588,231). Claim 22 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Platzer, Jr. Claim 25 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-20 and 26-42 have been allowed. Claim 25 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Allowance of claims 1-20 and 26-42 is respectfully accepted.

Claim 25 has been amended to be in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus it is believed that claim 25 as currently amended is now in condition for allowance.

Platzer, Jr.

Claims 21-24 have been amended. Support for the amendment to claim 21 can be found, for example, at paragraphs [050-052] (actuator held in position on the membrane by friction); paragraph [049] and Fig. 4A (actuator moves laterally on the surface of the supporting membrane); paragraph [046]

(adjustment beam connected to frame structure with a spherical joint near opposite end from where the actuator applies force to beam); paragraph **[045]** (reflector segment rigidly attached to the beam); and paragraph **[049]** and Fig. 4A (movement of actuator adjusts beam to pivot about spherical joint, producing an angular deflection of reflector segment about spherical joint).

Support for the amendment to claim 22 can be found, for example, at paragraph **[048]** (plurality of actuators); paragraphs **[036, 038]** (independent, individual adjustment of the reflector segments); paragraphs **[033-035]** (adaptive reflecting surface). Support for the amendment to claim 23 can be found, for example, at paragraph **[037]** as well as paragraphs **[50-67]** and Figures 5-15. Support for the amendment to claim 24 can be found, for example, at paragraph **[048]**.

Although Applicant agrees that Patent 3,588,231 may disclose a support membrane structure (housing 42, although Applicant respectfully submits that housing 42 is not a membrane in the more normal sense and meaning of the word as used in the present application to apply to membrane 112, which may be a large, thin, flat sheet of material inconsistent with the structure and function of housing 42) with an actuator mechanism (12), and adjustment beam (26) with an end of the adjustment beam being attached to the actuator mechanism (26 attached to 12), a frame structure (20) attached to an opposed end of the adjustment beam, and a reflector segment (16) attached to the adjustment beam, Platzer's mechanism operates differently from the reflector system as claimed by (amended) claim 21 and provides a different function. For example, Platzer's mechanism acts on an adjustment beam (cable 26) longitudinally to actuate the adjustment cable 26 and is designed to accommodate varying cable lengths (due, for example, to cable stretching). In contrast, the adaptive reflecting system claimed by claim 21 is comprised of a support membrane (in the normal sense of a flat, thin, sheet of material) structure with an actuator held

in position on the membrane by friction and capable of movement on the membrane that acts on the adjustment beam laterally (acting, for example, to bend the beam rather than stretch it). The actuator provides lateral forces on the adjustment beam that provides a tilting action of the beam that directly shifts the orientation of a reflector segment attached to the beam. Thus, Platzer differs from the present invention claimed by claim 21 in structure, function, and result, and there is nothing in Platzer to suggest the principles of operation of the present invention as claimed by claim 21.

Therefore, Applicant submits that the rejection based on Platzer, Jr. should be withdrawn, and that claim 21 as currently amended is now in condition for allowance.

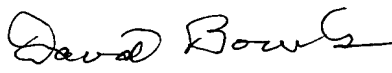
Because claim 21 is now believed to be in condition for allowance, claims 22-24 are also now believed to be in condition for allowance as depending from an allowable base claim

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Office Action with respect to claims 21-25 is requested. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

In the event the examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the attorney at the telephone number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

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